

Message Text

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ORIGIN COME-00

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 EB-07 AID-05 XMB-02 TRSE-00 FEA-01

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COM/BIC/OIM/RRYDLUN (INFO COPY)

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P 162216Z JAN 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE PRIORITY

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E.O. 11L52: N/A

TAGS: BEXP, GB

SUBJECT: GRAND POUBARA DAM PROJECT, GABON

REF: (A) LIBREVILLE 1620; (B) LIBREVILLE 1621;

--- (C) LIBREVILLE 0015

1. INFORMATION CONTAIN.D IN REFTTEL (A) AND (B) WAS PASSED TO MR. R. E. KOHNE OF INTER'ATIONAL ENGINEERING COMPANY WHEN RECEIVED ON DECEMBER 30.

2. PER REQUEST OF REF (B) USDOC MADE TELEPHONE CONTACTS WITH BECHTEL, BROWN & ROOT, DRAVO, EBASCO, AND KAISER ENGINEERS. THESE FIRMS ARE MAJOR U.S. DESIGN CONSTR'CTORS WITH CAPABILITY OF DOING THE COMPLETE PROJECT INCLUDING THE FEASIBILITY STUDIES, ENGINEERING, AND CONSTRUCTION OF HYDROELECTRIC PROJECTS.

3. THESE FIRMS POSED SEVERAL QUESTIONS REGARDING THE PROJECT. THESE QUESTIONS RELATE TO HOW THE PROJECT WILL

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BE FINANCED, WHAT IS THE DESIRED SCHEDULE FOR

IMPLEMENTING THE PROJECT, THE AVAILABILITY OF

PREFEASIBILITY REPORT(S) ON THE HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT
AND THE END-USER FERO MANGANESE PLANT AT FRANCEVILLE.
WE RECOGNIZE THE PROJECT MAY BE IN SUCH A PRELIMINARY
STAGE THAT DEFINITIVE ANSWERS MAY NOT BE AVAILABLE ;T
THIS TIME. HOWEVER, ANY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OR
EMBASSY COMMENTS RELATING TO THE ABOVE QUESTIONS MAY
ENCOURAGE THESE FIRMS (AND OTHERS) TO PARTICIPATE.

4. ALSO, A PROJECT BRIEF HAS BEEN PREPARED AND
DISSEMINATED TO ADDITIONAL DESIGN CONSTRUCTORS AND
ENGINEERING CONSULTANTS INFORMING THEM OF THIS PROJECT,
OPPORTUNITY AND THE EMBASSY'S SUGGESTION CONCERNING THE
DESIRABILITY FOR INTERESTED FIRMS TO MEET PERSONALLY
WITH PRESIDENT BONGO. WE WILL KEEP THE EMBASSY
ADVISED ON U.S. FIRM'S INTEREST ON THIS PROJECT. KISSINGER

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